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(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US):  
**GRAMPIAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST** [GB/GB]; Foresterhill House, Ashgrove Road West, Aberdeen AB25 2ZB (GB). **THE UNIVERSITY COURT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN** [GB/GB]; Kings College, Aberdeen, AB24 3FX (GB).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **JOHNSTONE**,

**Alan, John** [GB/GB]; The Elms, 7 North Deeside Road, Bieldside, Aberdeen AB15 9AD (GB). **SHEPHERD, Duncan, Eoin, Thomson** [GB/GB]; Flat 28, Caroline Apartments, Forbes Street, Aberdeen, AB25 2WN (GB).

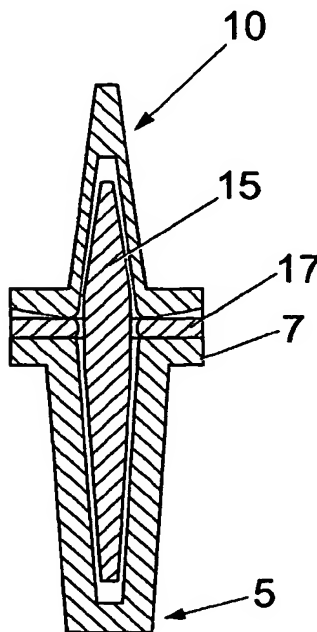
(74) Agent: **MURGITROYD & COMPANY**; Scotland House, 165-169 Scotland Street, Glasgow G5 8PL (GB).

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **IMPLANTABLE REPLACEMENT JOINT**



(57) Abstract: An implantable replacement joint is described. The replacement joint includes first (5) and second (10) components having respective bores, and a flexible member (15) within a cavity formed by the respective bores.

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 115 564 A (SULZER AG) 15 August 1984 (1984-08-15)  page 1, line 1 - page 5, line 20; claims; figures	1-6, 9, 14-23, 30, 31
A	US 3 462 765 A (SWANSON ALFRED B) 26 August 1969 (1969-08-26)  claims; figures	1-6, 9, 14-23, 30, 31
A	FR 2 724 309 A (PROCERATI) 15 March 1996 (1996-03-15) claims; figures	1-33
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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Kuehne, H-C

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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